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SAVAGE 2099™

THE BEASTMAN™ HAS MET ... HIS FINAL PUNISHMENT!

GRANT MORRISON

DIRECT EDITION
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RAVAGE 2099
CREATED BY
STAN LEE & PAUL RYAN

ONE MORE CORRUPT GUN-SLINGER -- WELL, YOU'VE PICKED THE *WRONG* CITIZEN!

ANOTHER CRAZY IN A *MASK* WHO KILLS COPS! BUT *THIS* COP DOESN'T FALL OVER SO EASY!

CLOUDS OF DOOM

PAT MILLS & TONY SKINNER
WRITERS

GRANT MIEHM
PENCILER

KEITH WILLIAMS
INKER

PHIL FELIX
LETTERER

GINA GOING
COLORIST

JOEY CAVALIERI
EDITOR

TOM DEFALCO
EDITOR IN CHIEF

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UUUGGGH! OKAY... SO IT'S NOT A MASK!

HIGH VELOCITY ADAMANTIUM SHELLS... BUT MY WOUNDS *HEAL* EVEN AS THE BULLETS PASSED *THROUGH* ME.

HOW COME HE'S STILL STANDING?

MY INSTINCTS ABOUT THIS GUY ARE RIGHT...

...HE'S LETHAL!

SO FAST... HE'S NEARLY AS FAST AS I AM...

BUT THAT'S NOT POSSIBLE!

ARGGH!

AH... THAT'S IT... HE'S WEARING SOME KIND OF POWER-ENHANCEMENT SUIT.

I DON'T UNDERSTAND... HE'S RUNNING OFF!

BUT I *DON'T* SMELL FEAR-- HIS PHEROMONES SAY "BERSERK" AND "KILL"...

ANYWAY... DOWN TO BUSINESS. *RIP* OPEN THIS DRIVE MOTOR... TAKE OUT THE LONG-WAVE GENERATING COILS...

... AND BRING "VALHALLA" DOWN TO THE SEA *BEFORE* IT CAN CAUSE ANY *MORE* ECOLOGICAL *DAMAGE.*

SKREECH!

WHAT THE--? *MY CLAWS* CAN SLASH THROUGH *ANYTHING*...

IT MUST USE AN *ATOMIC STASIS* DEVICE -- A *MOLECULE*-THICK ENVELOPE OF "FROZEN" ATOMS, IMPERVIOUS TO ABSOLUTELY ANYTHING.

HAVING A TOUGH TIME, SABOTEUR...? WANT A HAND?

OOPS! MISSED!

I KNOW WHO YOU ARE-- YOU'RE THE PUNISHER!

THAT'S RIGHT, I AM! KNOW HOW I GOT THAT NAME?

...BY PUNISHING CRIMINALS WHO THREATEN THE LIVES OF INNOCENT PEOPLE!

MY POWER BAT WAS ON MAXIMUM SETTING... YOU SHOULD HAVE GONE DOWN!

THIS IS ME ON MAXIMUM SETTING!

WHAM!

OOOOF!

HE'S THAT *COP* I FOUGHT EARLIER... HE *MUST* HAVE RUN OFF TO GET *CHANGED*...

WHOEVER *ELSE* HE IS, HE'S THE *PUNISHER*...

I'VE NO TIME FOR MANIAC *VIGILANTES* WHO WRITE THE RULES AS THEY *GO* ALONG.

KONNG

THAK

OKAY -- I'M A VIGILANTE, TOO... BUT AT LEAST I'M *SANE*... AND I'VE GOT A *GOOD* CAUSE...

...I'M FIGHTING FOR THE FUTURE OF THIS PLANET...

I BELIEVE IN WHAT I'M DOING...

I'M NOT SOME *BENT COP* WITH AN ATTITUDE...

... AND A TASTE *FOR MINDLESS VIOLENCE!*

YOU'RE STILL ALIVE! IT'S NOT POSSIBLE!

I'M JUST GONNA HAVE TO RIP YOU APART THE OLD-FASHIONED WAY...

TOOTH AND CLAW...!

YOU MANGY BALL OF HAIR! I'M GONNA STICK YOUR "TOOTH AND CLAW" RIGHT WHERE THE SUN DON'T...

THE "BEAST MAN" AND THE PUNISHER!? SHRED THEM BOTH!

GALLOWS WILL ROAST OUR FLESH IF THEY GET AWAY!

BRAKA

BRAKA

BRAKK

THIS IS TOO COMPLICATED... I DON'T NEED THIS...

I'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE... CHECK THE BLUEPRINTS ON THE ALCHEMAX DISK...

COME BACK WHEN I FIND SOME WAY TO GET PAST THAT STASIS SHIELD COVERING THE LIFTERS.

CALL MY COMPANY JET...

BEEP! BEEP!

IT SHOULD REACH ME BEFORE I HIT THE WATER.

COOL!

SHOCK! THE DAMAGE THE CITY'S CAUSING IS *WORSE* THAN I HAD IMAGINED...

...IT'S LEAVING A TRAIL OF *DEATH* IN THE WATER BEHIND IT...

BUT THE CURRENT'S GOING THE *OTHER* WAY...

WHICH MEANS IT'S MOVING...

...TOWARDS NEW YORK!

BUT IT MAKES NO SENSE... WHEN VALHALLA APPEARS OVER THE CITY, A LOT OF PEOPLE WILL DIE.

ALCHEMAX MUST *KNOW* THAT... OR MAYBE THEY DON'T REALIZE THE CITY IS *DRIFTING*?

LET'S LOOK AT THE *SPECS* ON THIS "TOY IN THE SKY..."

HMMM... THE CLUES ARE ALL HERE... IF ONLY I CAN SEE THEM...

BUT MY PHYSICS JUST ISN'T GOOD ENOUGH TO UNDERSTAND ALL THIS... I FEEL *OUT OF MY DEPTH* HERE.

IT MAY TAX YOUR BRAIN, RAVAGE, BUT TO ONE SUCH AS I, THESE PROBLEMS ARE *MINUSCULE*!

WHO THE--?

I AM DOOM... RULER OF LATVERIA...

WHAT IS THIS? "HEROES DAY"? I HAD A FIGHT WITH THE *PUNISHER* EARLIER...

YOU COME FOR A WORKOUT, TOO?

SUCH FLIPPANCY IS CHARACTERISTIC OF THE TRULY *IGNORANT*, BUT I AM HERE FOR A *HIGHER* PURPOSE...

TO WIT -- *NEUTRALIZING* THE THREAT OF *VALHALLA*...!

THIS, AT LEAST, SHOULD BE REASON FOR PAUL-PHILIP RAVAGE -- ALIAS THE *MYSTERIOUS* "BEAST-MAN" -- TO HELP ME...

HOW DO YOU KNOW ABOUT *THAT*? AND *HOW* DID YOU GET THROUGH MY SECURITY SYSTEM?

I KNOW *ALL* ABOUT YOU, RAVAGE -- AND AS FOR YOUR SECURITY... I BREACHED THAT WITH THE *SAME* EASE I'LL *DECODE* THIS BLUEPRINT.

I'VE HAD *SOME EXPERIENCE* RECENTLY WITH THE SECURITY SYSTEMS OF • COMPUTERS.

SO I'M SUPPOSED TO HAND YOU ALL THE INFORMATION I'VE WORKED SO HARD TO GET, ALL BECAUSE OF YOUR LITTLE SPEECH?

NO, RAVAGE... YOU WILL DO IT BECAUSE YOU TRUST YOUR INSTINCTS...

"...AND YOU KNOW I'M TELLING THE TRUTH..."

..BUT THE CHOICE IS YOURS...EITHER WAY I MUST LEAVE YOU NOW..."

YOU'RE RIGHT... THE CREATURE THAT I AM CAN TELL THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN TRUTH AND LIE...

SO WE ARE ON THE SAME SIDE...NOW WHERE DO I DOWNLOAD THE INFORMATION TO YOU?

THAT...? I DID THAT THE SPLIT SECOND I ARRIVED HERE...

SO, RAVAGE... I WILL MEET YOU IN "VALHALLA" AT 2200 HOURS TONIGHT. DON'T BE LATE.

HE SEEMS TO KNOW WHAT HE'S DOING...

HOWEVER, I CAN'T LEAVE THE FATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT... IN DOOM'S HANDS ALONE...

I NEED A PLAN 'B'...

YOU HAVE A HOLO-CALL ON PRIORITY OVERRIDE, SIR.

OKAY... LET IT THROUGH--

--WHAT THE SHOCK! MORE COSTUMES! WHAT IS IT WITH TODAY? WHO ARE YOU?

YOU'LL FIND OUT SOON ENOUGH.

I'LL GET TO THE POINT, RAVAGE... A FRIEND OF OURS HAS DISAPPEARED... HE WAS WORKING ON A SPECIAL DISK ON WHICH HE WAS INVESTIGATING THE VALHALLA PROJECT...

...WE TRACED THE TRAIL OF THE DISK, RAVAGE... IT LED TO YOUR DOOR... START TALKING AND WE'D BETTER LIKE WHAT WE HEAR.

WE WANT JORDAN BOONE... OR WE'RE COMING FOR YOU!

BIG THREAT FROM A HOLOGRAM. ALL I'VE GOT TO DO IS DISCONNECT AND YOU DISAPPEAR...

BUT IF YOU'RE VERY, VERY NICE TO ME, I MIGHT LISTEN TO WHAT YOU HAVE TO SAY.

SO... HOW'S OUR FEMALE CANDIDATE SHAPING UP, STONE

I TRUST SHE WON'T DIE LIKE SOME OF YOUR EARLIER EFFORTS.

NO, SIR. HER GENE TYPE, HER BELIEF SYSTEM, EVERYTHING *MATCHES* PERFECTLY.

WE'RE APPROACHING *METAMORPHOSIS*...

THE NEXT FEW MINUTES WILL [redacted] CRITICAL...!

AS HELA AND THE ORIGINAL TIANA STRUGGLE FOR CONTROL OF HER BODY...

AT LAST-- I'M FREE OF YOU, TIANA... YOU'VE ALWAYS HELD ME BACK.

NOT SO. YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN A PART OF ME... BUT I HAVE TO LEAD A NORMAL LIFE.

YOU'RE NOT GOING TO LEAD ANY KIND OF LIFE, WEAK HUMAN!

NO, WAIT! I'M NOT SURE I WANT THIS!

I-I DON'T KNOW WHERE ALL THIS COULD LEAD ME. I'M SAFER HOLDING ONTO WHAT I KNOW.

HAH! IF THAT WERE SO, YOU WOULDN'T HAVE COME HERE... SURRENDER YOURSELF TO ME, WOMAN ... I'LL MAKE IT QUICK...!

YOU'RE RIGHT... STRIKE NOW... INTO YOUR HANDS, O GODDESS, I COMMEND MY SPIRIT... AND ALL THAT I AM... ALL THAT I WAS... AND WILL BE...

SO SHALL IT BE...

...YOU NEVER REALLY HAD A CHOICE!

SO.. YOU MADE IT THROUGH. WELL DONE.

HERE, MY LADY... YOUR COSTUME -- FIT FOR A GODDESS...

AND YOUR RAKE, DESIGNED BY THE DWARVES OF ASGARD.

BRING ME MY GARB AND DEATH RAKE.

THE METAMORPHOSIS IS COMPLETE. ANOTHER TRIUMPH FOR ALCHEMAX TECHNOLOGY.

YOU FORGET THE AID OF MY STAR FRIENDS, STONE... AND THE RESPECT THEY ARE DUE.

HAVE A CARE THAT YOUR AMNESIA DOESN'T BECOME TERMINAL.

ER-- RIGHT... I HEAR YOU, AVATARR.

NOW, MY DEAR, AS WAS EXPLAINED, THIS TREATMENT IS NOT ENTIRELY FREE.

YOU SEE... CERTAIN CRIMINAL ELEMENTS IN OUR SOCIETY... WOULD-BE "HEROES"... MUST BE REMOVED FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC...

SPIDER-MAN... THE BEAST RAVAGE... THE PUNISHER... ET AL... YOU SIMPLY NEED TO CHOOSE ONE AND WIPE HIM OUT!

I'VE ALREADY AGREED TO YOUR TERMS, MORTAL— AND THE CHOICE IS EASY...
MAKE MINE RAVAGE...!

BULLPEN BULLETINS

MESSAGE FROM MIKE

When you're World Famous, there are many demands on your time. In my many great and diverse careers as Movie Star, Radio & TV personality, Fan Phone Message recording artist and International Publishing Icon, I've found one truth to be universal. Cream rises to the top, as evidenced by my recent promotion to the rank of Associate Editor.

After spending three glorious years here at Marvel, and the previous 12 months with Spider-Guy Danny Fingeroth and the Maximum Carnage crew, Carl Potts and El Queso Grande himself, Tom DeFalco gave yours truly the nod, deeming me fit to be Marvel's newest King of the Comics. They knew that producing high-quality, well crafted, thought-provoking comics is no mean feat, but when you're the Comic Book Champion like I am, these things just come naturally. Who else but someone with my great talent could bring you the upcoming BEAVIS AND BUTT-HEAD comic book, drawn by Rick Parker?

And what was the first title thrown my way to edit? None other than THE HARROWERS, a Marvel/Epic collaboration featuring Pinhead and a wealth of other Clive Barker creations, which is currently on its second soul-searing issue. Marvel legends Gene Colan & Al Williamson deliver some awesome art here — this kicks TOMB OF DRACULA's butt! Writer Malcolm Smith has also been busy, combining the frightening elements of HELLRAISER with the classic Marvel super hero action you demand!

In closing, let me say this ... I have contracted an artist named Gunnar to construct for me a Championship Belt befitting my great & lofty position. Thirty thousand dollars worth of gold, diamonds, and rubies are being cut, mounted, and polished to herald my name to new heights of glory. When next we meet, I'll have photos.

Learn to Love it!

World Famous,
Mike Lackey

HAVE MERCY, MELLOW ONES!

Whenever you send *any* piece of mail to Marvel Comics — be it fan mail, fun mail, mail to the Chief, subscription inquiries — whatever!, please please please print your **name and address** on *the letter itself*, not just the envelope, which often gets thrown away by our crack team of letter-openers, but **the letter itself!** You don't know how many times we want to respond to someone's letter, but we can't make out the scrawled signature or we no longer have the address to do so! Nuff said!

This week marks the debut of MARVELS, the fully painted limited series which tells about the heroes of the Marvel Universe from the point of view of the common people. Not even a novel can get the point of view of every person, so we decided to head out to the streets to get some more reactions from the average person to what it's like living in the Marvel Universe.

Bar owner Sam Lamone uses super heroes as a source of entertainment. Said Sam, "Every time there's a **Thing/ Hulk** clash, we show it on closed circuit TV in the bar. I've even heard talk of some wagering going on, but I can't comment on that, since I run a respectable business."

Lawyer P. J. McDermott has found a legitimate way to profit off of super hero slugfests. As P. J. put it, "When I see two steroid-heads go at it, I start passing out my business card, in case any bystanders are injured. This one time when **Galactus** was fighting the **Fantastic Four**, a piece of debris hit this guy in the eye. We sued the FF and got three million bucks out of them! We still have a summons out on Galactus!"

Accountant Gloria Glamowski once shared an elevator ride with **Cable!** As Gloria tells it, "He had the biggest shoulder pads I ever saw! He took up the whole elevator, and the people behind him got crushed. But he didn't care. He just kept staring straight ahead with his glowing eye! Creepy!"

Cab driver Samal Habib tells of once giving a cab ride to **Doctor Doom!** "His limo developed car trouble, and Doom needed to get to his Manhattan embassy fast," Samal began. "Something about needing diplomatic impunity, or something like that. Anyway, he paid me in Latverian coins, which are completely worthless in this country. I still have them, even today!"

Highway patrolman Paul Pullman said he once had a run-in with **Ghost Rider!** Reports Paul, "I was driving down the highway, on a routine patrol, when I see this guy with a blazing skull drive by. Now, I don't care if you're a demon or not, we have helmet laws in this state. So I tried to pull him over, but he ignored me and zipped away so fast, I couldn't even clock him with radar. The whole thing just gave me the willies!"

Retired sewage worker Harriet Nudgeman had a run-in with the **Man-Thing** in the Florida Everglades! As Harriet tells it, "My husband Herb had this great idea to tour the swamps of Florida. Of course, the cheapskate picks the cheesiest boat company you can find. We got separated from the guide, and the next thing you know, we're lost! Herb starts yelling, and then this big ball of mud with a carrot for a nose starts walking toward us! You can bet that shut up Herb real fast!"

Actress/waitress Kelly Starr was once approached in a bar by **Wolverine!** As Kelly puts it, "I was just sitting there, minding my own business, when this short guy staggers over. He had this weird haircut — it was like his head came to a couple of points! He starts popping his claws out, saying he's the best he is at what he does. If that's true, then what he does best is get rejected!"

Finally, we have housewife Edna Ellerby, who was once stuck in line in a donut shop behind the **Juggernaut!** According to Edna, "You've heard that nothing can stop this guy? Wrong! He stops to eat just like everyone else! And believe me, that guy can eat! I never saw so many chocolate eclairs in my life!"

THE BULL'S EYE — RICK PARKER

WHAT'S IT LIKE TO ACTUALLY LIVE IN THE MARVEL UNIVERSE?
WELL... I DID MEET ELECTRO ONCE! Y'SEE, AS HEAD OF MAINTENANCE FOR COMMAX, IT'S MY JOB TO CHECK FOR GAPING HOLES IN THE FAÇADE OF THE BUILDING...I MET "MAX" AT A NUCLEAR REACTOR DEMONSTRATION -- GOT HIS AUTOGRAPH, TOO!
-- AND TO THINK, I ALMOST WENT FOR A MULLET THAT DAY!
HEY! DON'T TAKE OUR WORD FOR IT - CHECK OUT SHE-HULK #59

HYPELINE: ON SALE THIS WEEK

- ☐ **ALPHA FLIGHT #128:** Learn who is behind the Super-Powers Registration Act!
- ☐ **AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #388:** Spidey's on **Jury** duty!
- ☐ **BARBIE #37:** Thanksgiving in Thailand!
- ☐ **CURSE OF THE WEIRD #2 OF 4:** Pre-Code horror!
- ☐ **DARKHOLD #18:** *Final issue!* Time to let go!
- ☐ **GHOST RIDER #45:** Maximum Vengeance!
- ☐ **GHOST RIDER/SPIDER-MAN TPB: SPIRITS OF VENOM:** Spooky reprint!
- ☐ **GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY #44:** The **Beyonder** is beyond help!
- ☐ **HARROWERS #2:** Trapped in **Pinhead's** backyard!
- ☐ **HYPERKIND #5:** Paragon John goes on and on!
- ☐ **KING ARTHUR & THE KNIGHTS OF JUSTICE #2 OF 3:** Clash with **Warlord Viper!**
- ☐ **MARVEL COMICS #145:** Part 11 of **Siege of Darkness!**
- ☐ **MARVEL X-MEN COLLECTION By Jim Lee #1 OF 3:** Reprinting classic cards!
- ☐ **MARVELS #1 OF 4:** Beautifully painted by Alex Ross!
- ☐ **NIGHT THRASHER #6:** The most controversial Marvel Comic — *ever!!*
- ☐ **NOVA #1:** The human rocket zooms your way in two versions — gold cover and regular cover!
- ☐ **PSYCHONAUTS #4 OF 4:** The frenetic conclusion!
- ☐ **PUNISHER WAR ZONE #23:** Frank's wired to explode!
- ☐ **QUASAR #54: Hyperion** versus **Gladiator** — strain of the super-men!
- ☐ **RAVAGE 2099 #14:** Pummeled by **Punisher 2099!**
- ☐ **SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN #217:** Conan's soul under glass!
- ☐ **SECRET DEFENDERS #11:** The **Starblasters** leave a threat!
- ☐ **SILVER SABLE #20:** Who invited **The Intruders?**
- ☐ **SLEEPWALKER #32:** Cobweb pulls the strings!
- ☐ **SPIDER-WOMAN #3 OF 4:** Battle of the arachnids, featuring **Deathweb!**
- ☐ **TERRARISTS #3 OF 4:** What is The Terran Directive?
- ☐ **WOLVERINE #77:** Minus adamantium — versus **Lady Deathstrike!**
- ☐ **WOLVERINE/GHOST RIDER:ACTS OF VENGEANCE:** Vengeful reprint!
- ☐ **WONDER MAN #28:** Next stop: **Asgard!**
- ☐ **X-FACTOR #90:** It's random havok as **Random** fights **Havok!**
- ☐ **X-MEN ADVENTURES #15:** 48-page spectacular!

OPPORTUNITY AEROSOL ADVERTISING LIVE ANIMATION TERMINAL EMULATION PACKAGE PRODUCT MIX POSTMARKET OPPORTUNITY TERMINAL FORCE ELECTRONIC RETAILING INTEST... ORDER BULLPEN BORDERLINE BLATHER EDUCATIONAL BANKRUPTCY SQUEEGEE OPERATORS PSYCHOLOGICAL WOUNDS VIDEO SHOPPING MALLS INSTITUTIONAL FASCISTIC CURB APPEAL DYSLEXIA GRUNGE PRINCESS KEYSTONE PROFITS GENEVA PROTOCOL KNEE JERK REACTION

THOUGHT YOU MIGHT GO FOR HIM...

SO I SHALL... BUT NOT YET... TIANA DREAMED OF FLYING ALL HER LIFE...

I'VE GOT A LITTLE SKY TO VISIT...

TELL ME, STONE... ARE OUR NEW ICONS BEING PRESENTED AS LEGITIMATE AND PRAISEWORTHY HEROES...?

IS "OPERATION ICONOBLAST" PROCEEDING AS PLANNED...?

INDEED, AVATARR... EVEN AS WE SPEAK...

SYNTHIA

"...OUR P.R. TRANSMISSIONS ARE BEING BEAMED INTO THE HOMES OF THE GREAT UNWASHED PUBLIC EVEN AS WE SPEAK..."

HONEY-- SOMETHING'S BREAKING IN ON THE AD CHANNEL!

OH, NO! RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF MY FAVORITE "SYNTHIA" AD!

WE INTERRUPT YOUR NORMAL PROGRAM TONIGHT TO BRING YOU A LIVE INTERVIEW WITH... BALDUR! A REAL HERO FOR THESE TROUBLED TIMES...

BUT FIRST, LET'S RECALL ONE OF THE EVENTS THAT MADE HIM THE HERO THAT HE IS...

NEWS FLASH

"...WE REMEMBER WITH GRATITUDE BALDUR'S ENDING OF THE 'REAL FOOD FANATICS' SIEGE LAST WEEK... WITHOUT ANYBODY GETTING HURT...

"...EXCEPT THE 'FOODIES', OF COURSE!

"WHAT A MAN! FEARLESS AND STRONG AND--GET THIS, VIEWERS--OUT IN THE OPEN! NOT HIDING IN THE SHADOWS LIKE SOME SO-CALLED 'HEROES'..."

GROW YA OWN EAT WELL!

"BALDUR HAS THE BACKING OF THE PEOPLE..."

BECAUSE THE PUBLIC EYE... THE ECO-POLICE AND THE OTHER AGENCIES DESIGNED TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC ARE HOPELESSLY UNDERMANNED AND TIED UP IN RED TAPE...

WOW! IMPRESSIVE STUFF, BALDUR--BUT TELL US... WHY DID YOU DO IT?

WE, THE GODS AND GODDESSES OF VALHALLA, ARE COMING TO CHANGE ALL THAT... TO FREE THIS CITY FROM FEAR...

BUT FIRST WE MUST REMOVE THE IMPOSTERS... COSTUMED VIGILANTES AND FREAKS LIKE SPIDER-MAN... THE PUNISHER... AND THE BEAST-MAN!

#4 FALL OF THE HAMMER!

RANTS & RAVES

JOEY CAVALIERI — EDITOR
MATTHEW MORRA — ASSISTANT EDITOR

c/o MARVEL COMICS, 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10016
ALL LETTERS FOR PUBLICATION MUST INCLUDE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS, ALTHOUGH WE WILL GLADLY WITHHOLD THAT INFO UPON REQUEST.

Out Of My Head

You guys never cut anybody a break.

No sooner do I get through telling everybody how the "Fall of the Hammer" crossover (which next ish is a part of) has got everybody six kinds of excited, then I already start hearing, "Yeah, but what's goin' on with Ravage *after* that?"

Wise guys.

It just so happens that Pat and Tony's continuity for the next set of stories arrived on my desk just this very morning! It introduces a brand-new villain called Throwback, utilizes Ravage's supporting cast (past, present and *future*) like never before, *and* weaves it all together with the rest of 2099 (particularly the Punisher's friends and foes) seamlessly! It's the apotheosis of this character's recent direction, and you'll be able to see it for yourself in two more months.

And because you've been so snotty to me, that's all I'm gonna say about it.

Dear *Rants and Raves*,

I've been reading RAVAGE 2099 since issue #1 and have held my tongue long enough. I was a great fan of the "original" Ravage created by Stan Lee and Paul Ryan. I had to tell you what I think of the book's new direction.

Pat Mills and Tony Skinner have done some really good stuff. I like Paul-Philip's family. They make for a nice supporting cast and provide raw material for good subplots. I also like that they got rid of Tiana and Dack (let's face it, teen sidekicks went out with the Champions). I think they've done a lot to flesh out Paul-Philip's character and show us what makes him tick. Introducing Green Globe was also a good idea. My main problem with Pat and Tony is that although interesting, Ravage's new powers aren't all that unique. Since technically Ravage is still "evolving," couldn't we see some more *radical* changes? Anything but battle-armor, please.

As far as the art goes it's very good. Grant Miehm is a fine and competent artist. Still, I wouldn't mind if he loosened up a bit and went wild. Sometimes his style can look too "nice."

Please don't think I'm putting the book down, 'cause I'm not. I still think RAVAGE 2099 is a solid, professional, high-quality book that is well worth the buck and a quarter. I just think that with the incredibly talented guys you've got working on it, it can be better.

Thanks for listening. Hope you didn't mind all the negative criticism.

Kevin Palmer
(Address withheld by request)

Not at all, Kev. You told it pretty straight from the shoulder, and there's nothing "negative" about that. We're even gonna try a suggestion or two of yours. See, it pays to write!

Dear Joey,

Just months ago I'd all but completely given up reading RAVAGE 2099 simply because I found the book was becoming more and more unrealistic. I mean Ravage seemed like a Wolverine clone with claws and enhanced senses.

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D. Free Distribution by mail, carrier, or other means, samples, complimentary, and other free copies: Average no. of copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 125. Actual no. copies of single issue nearest to filing date: 125.
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G. Total (sum of E, F1 and 2 should equal net press run shown in A): Average no. of copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 354,975. Actual no. copies of single issue nearest to filing date: 220,400.
11. I certify that the statements made by me above are correct and complete.
(signed) Diane Rivera — Business Manager

Now, after reading RAVAGE 2099 #11, I'm glad that I decided to give this book the benefit of the doubt and stick around for longer than I intended. I'm especially pleased to see Ravage's animal-like state isn't a permanent one and that he's able to transform himself back into plain ol' Paul-Philip. This surely makes for more interesting stories since Ravage can now roam the streets without creating mass hysteria.

Pat Mills and Tony Skinner have once again captured the spirit of this title, the spirit that Stan Lee has passed on to them. Though they had a false start, they are most definitely on the right track and picking up speed. Besides, Grant Miehm's art looks as good as ever.

Expect nothing and you'll get everything, people often say, and they're right. I expected RAVAGE 2099 to go down the drain and instead it got better. Take a bow, fellas.

Olav Beemer

Don't mind if we do, Olav. We're pretty confident that you and all our readers will see dramatic differences between this character and Wolverine as we go on.

MORE OF MARVEL 2099

Spider-Man 2099 #16 *It all starts here! "The Fall of the Hammer" begins as Miguel and Dane's visit to Valhalla goes awry! There's a guy in a Thor costume who ain't no ordinary Thorite, and a story that continues in this megazine's next ish!*

X-Men 2099 #5 *Okay, so our misanthropic mutants made it to New York! And they're basically being a pain in the neck to Ravage and everybody else? Where does it go from here? Check...*

Doom 2099 #14 *...That's where! John, Pat and John push Doom, Valhalla, the Aesir and the entire 2099 cast closer to Ragnarok!*

Punisher 2099 #13 *The big finish...and for some of our characters, we mean that in more ways than one! Hey, all the covers of this crossover fit together...and we don't charge you a cent more!*

NEXT ISSUE

The second part of "Fall of the Hammer" takes place here! So read SPIDEY 2099 #16 first, and we'll meet you back here!